

0:00:10.041,0:00:13.291
Hi. Welcome, everybody, to the Ogden Way
Podcast, the place

0:00:13.291,0:00:16.625
where we talk about stories, talk
about the people and their stories.

0:00:17.208,0:00:21.083
Where we highlight the wins, highlight
the struggles, but we always highlight

0:00:21.083,0:00:24.083
the spirit of the champion,
the people of origin.

0:00:24.916,0:00:26.416
Today I've got Jim Konig with us.

0:00:26.416,0:00:29.583
He's the editor of the Standard Examiner,
Publisher.

0:00:30.250,0:00:31.833
Sorry.

0:00:31.833,0:00:32.541
Let's see.

0:00:32.541,0:00:33.750
Now. Let's start. Over.

0:00:33.750,0:00:35.666
No, we're not starting over now.

0:00:35.666,0:00:37.875
Now the viewers and the listeners know

0:00:37.875,0:00:40.875
that Jim Konig holds me
accountable, right?

0:00:41.041,0:00:43.666
I got to set the record straight.
I'm sorry.

0:00:43.666,0:00:45.791
Publisher. I'm sorry.
That's all right.

0:00:45.791,0:00:47.041
I'm not in the newspaper business.

0:00:47.041,0:00:47.583
It's all good.

0:00:47.583,0:00:50.583
It's all good. But,
I mean, that's actually.

0:00:50.916,0:00:55.791
I love that you said that because you and
I have sat down much like this, and.

0:00:55.958,0:00:58.375
But I'm always at the end of a table.
Yes.

0:00:58.375,0:01:01.375
I'm sitting with the editorial board
of which you have assembled.

0:01:01.625,0:01:01.875
Right.

0:01:01.875,0:01:05.500
And all the
all of the questions are on me, right?

0:01:05.958,0:01:08.083

Yes, they are.

And they're not softball questions.

0:01:08.083,0:01:08.750

No they're not.

0:01:08.750,0:01:11.791

And but but the the

the beauty of what comes across

0:01:11.791,0:01:14.791

when we sit with you, though,

right, is the sincerity

0:01:14.833,0:01:17.666

of your belief in what you want

to accomplish for the city.

0:01:17.666,0:01:18.541

Right?

0:01:18.541,0:01:23.291

That's one of the reasons why, you know,

we endorse you when you ran.

0:01:23.625,0:01:26.083

It's one of the reasons

why we're excited that you take the

0:01:26.083,0:01:29.083

the time out of your schedule

to come in once a quarter and sit down

0:01:29.166,0:01:31.833

and answer the questions.

We respect that. And,

0:01:33.458,0:01:34.791

it may be hard

0:01:34.791,0:01:37.791

for people that are listening

and or that read our paper

0:01:38.625,0:01:40.750

to understand

0:01:40.750,0:01:41.958

where you're coming from.

0:01:41.958,0:01:44.666

As the mayor.

0:01:44.666,0:01:47.666

The sincerity that I get from you is real.

0:01:48.125,0:01:50.083

It's not a politician.

0:01:50.083,0:01:50.916

So...

Thank you.

0:01:50.916,0:01:52.958

I respect that and I appreciate that.

0:01:52.958,0:01:56.083

And I think that's one of the reasons why

when I got the invitation to come here,

0:01:56.083,0:01:58.291

I was like, yeah, be happy too.

0:01:58.291,0:02:00.083

I'm not a guy who's up front usually.

0:02:00.083,0:02:04.625

I know you're behind the cameras and I
take care of numbers and things, but...

0:02:04.916,0:02:07.500

That's because you're not the editor
you're the publisher.

0:02:07.500,0:02:09.333

This is this is very true.

0:02:09.333,0:02:11.916

But but at the same time, it's,

0:02:11.916,0:02:14.041

you know, I consider it an honor

0:02:14.041,0:02:17.041

to, to have been asked here
to sit down and talk.

0:02:17.458,0:02:20.291

And I'll look forward to,
to discussing our paper

0:02:20.291,0:02:23.333

in the city and, where we go from there.

0:02:23.791,0:02:25.416

Well, thanks for thanks for joining us.

0:02:25.416,0:02:27.166

And I start with that story because,

0:02:28.500,0:02:30.083

I think a lot of people assume,

0:02:30.083,0:02:33.083

especially when it comes to the media,
when it comes to politicians.

0:02:33.541,0:02:33.791

Right?

0:02:33.791,0:02:37.250

I really don't like
to call myself a politician, but I just

0:02:38.166,0:02:41.166

I just genuinely want to be known
as a man, a person.

0:02:41.250,0:02:44.208

Right?
I'm certainly a father. I'm a husband.

0:02:44.208,0:02:47.125

And I'm also the mayor. But,

0:02:47.125,0:02:50.125

if we always start from this place of
you're a crooked,

0:02:50.666,0:02:54.458

bad person who's self-serving,
then it's really not a

0:02:54.833,0:02:57.458

it's not very conducive
to having genuine conversations.

0:02:57.458,0:02:59.583

And so I've appreciated
sitting at the table

0:02:59.583,0:03:03.166

with you, you and your staff
because they're not easy conversations.

0:03:03.166,0:03:04.375
You guys give me hard questions.

0:03:04.375,0:03:06.291
When I give you answers
that don't satisfy you.

0:03:06.291,0:03:07.791
You drill down further

0:03:07.791,0:03:11.666
and really, you tighten the screws on me
throughout the time and it's fine with me.

0:03:11.666,0:03:14.375
It absolutely doesn't bother me.
I don't have anything to hide.

0:03:14.375,0:03:17.375
I'm just trying to provide answers
and provide clarity for what you want.

0:03:17.583,0:03:21.916
And and so today, you know, I'm not I'm
not going to do the same thing to you.

0:03:21.916,0:03:24.791
But no, but
but the script is flipped a little bit.

0:03:24.791,0:03:25.166
Sure.

0:03:25.166,0:03:26.958
Now I'm interviewing you

0:03:26.958,0:03:29.500
because, you know,
the people have ordinary understanding

0:03:29.500,0:03:33.666
more and more every day and learning what
the Ogden way really means, and we're

0:03:33.666,0:03:36.708
all kind of learning it together,
to be honest with you, it's a framework.

0:03:36.708,0:03:40.291
It's a it's a, it's a tagline
where as a city of service

0:03:40.416,0:03:43.416
and a community of opportunity, right?

0:03:43.416,0:03:46.500
It's a it's a mission for our staff
and it's a vision for our entire city

0:03:46.500,0:03:49.666
that provides the pillars
at which we build and prioritize the work

0:03:49.666,0:03:52.833
we do to make sure that we give people
success, opportunities for success.

0:03:53.666,0:03:55.416
There's values built into that, right?

0:03:55.416,0:03:56.416
And there are.

0:03:56.416,0:04:00.250
And the most important part
of what we've talked about previously,

0:04:00.250,0:04:04.083
and a little bit,
a few minutes ago, is the opportunity

0:04:04.208,0:04:06.333
to communicate
that throughout the whole city.

0:04:06.333,0:04:07.208
Right, right.

0:04:07.208,0:04:09.750
And that's going to be the biggest
challenge you're going to have, right?

0:04:09.750,0:04:12.666
So to reach your 80-90,000 people.

0:04:12.666,0:04:13.625
Right. And

0:04:15.000,0:04:18.000
and if we're going to be a community,
not just a city,

0:04:18.166,0:04:21.375
we need to have a community newspaper,
a newspaper that holds

0:04:22.208,0:04:25.625
officials to account, that communicates
the things that are happening

0:04:25.625,0:04:27.250
and not happening.

0:04:27.250,0:04:32.000
That that doesn't operate
with a political bias, but with a genuine

0:04:32.583,0:04:36.333
bias toward fact and information
and informing and educating people.

0:04:36.875,0:04:37.208
Right.

0:04:37.208,0:04:40.208
We certainly hope that we are that right.

0:04:40.208,0:04:42.875
And we should be that right.

0:04:42.875,0:04:46.125
Humans being humans,
they do have a tendency of,

0:04:46.291,0:04:49.291
putting their own feelings
into stories at times.

0:04:49.375,0:04:49.625
Right.

0:04:49.625,0:04:53.041
And we certainly sit down as a publisher
to the editor

0:04:53.583,0:04:56.250
and, and discuss,

0:04:56.250,0:04:59.125
you know, the content that was written

0:04:59.125,0:05:02.125
and how it's slanted to one side
or the other. And,

0:05:03.083,0:05:06.541
you know, you can watch Fox News
and have one opinion and you can watch CNN

0:05:06.541,0:05:08.541
and have a different opinion. Right?

0:05:08.541,0:05:11.000
Too much of that becomes opinion nowadays.

0:05:11.000,0:05:14.541
And that factual data or information
that we supply

0:05:14.791,0:05:17.291
to people to make a decision, right.

0:05:17.291,0:05:20.250
And that's really what we need to do,
especially in a

0:05:20.250,0:05:25.166
in a city and a need
community is be factual in what we report.

0:05:25.708,0:05:29.041
And then a lot of the readers
make a decision and or continue

0:05:29.041,0:05:32.791
researching what we wrote
and make a decision on their own.

0:05:32.791,0:05:34.166
Right. That's really important.

0:05:35.500,0:05:35.916
Playing the

0:05:35.916,0:05:39.250
game of, you know,
whether we like the mirror or not or,

0:05:39.250,0:05:42.250
you know, hey, let's try to get him or,
you know, let's find stories.

0:05:43.083,0:05:46.083
You know,
we certainly don't play those games.

0:05:46.583,0:05:49.791
We will report what the facts are,

0:05:51.458,0:05:54.458
what we believe the facts
to be after research

0:05:55.458,0:05:56.291
and then go from there.

0:05:56.291,0:05:58.541
And then you have the opportunity,
obviously,

0:05:58.541,0:06:01.541
and on our quarterly meetings
to address those,

0:06:01.625,0:06:04.541
if you feel there's an inaccuracy
or anything else

0:06:04.541,0:06:07.541
and you know, you can say, hey,
you guys wrote something here and,

0:06:07.750,0:06:10.541

you know,
I don't quite agree with, with the,

0:06:10.541,0:06:14.125
terminology or the spin, if you will, or,
you know, let's talk about it.

0:06:14.125,0:06:14.791
Right.

0:06:14.791,0:06:17.791
And thus creating the communication
though,

0:06:18.416,0:06:22.208
that we don't have in politics overall
right now in my opinion.

0:06:22.541,0:06:23.291
Okay. So,

0:06:24.250,0:06:24.958
I have had the

0:06:24.958,0:06:28.750
experience of the bias and the,
you know, the gotchas and so on.

0:06:28.750,0:06:30.500
Of course, I have

0:06:30.500,0:06:32.333
I never have with with Standard actually.

0:06:32.333,0:06:33.541
Yeah.

0:06:33.541,0:06:37.666
It's in my experience,
it's just been like, what are the facts?

0:06:37.666,0:06:39.416
Tell me your opinion.

0:06:39.416,0:06:42.750
You've printed it fairly
and pretty much exactly as I say.

0:06:43.083,0:06:45.541
I mean, it's
just that's all we ask, right?

0:06:45.541,0:06:47.291
It's all I ask anyway.

0:06:47.291,0:06:50.000
But but I think
when in our early conversations

0:06:50.000,0:06:53.000
it was important, obviously to you,

0:06:53.416,0:06:56.375
as the publisher of a community newspaper,
it's obviously important to you

0:06:56.375,0:06:59.583
that we that we have a community newspaper
or you wouldn't be in this

0:06:59.833,0:07:01.125
in this role, in this business.

0:07:01.125,0:07:04.833
And so in us talking with each other,
I communicate the same thing.

0:07:04.833,0:07:06.500

I said, well,
I want to be helpful in making sure

0:07:06.500,0:07:11.000
that this community has a newspaper
that is thriving and sustainable.

0:07:11.583,0:07:13.958
And so that's when we first
started to commit to do quarterly.

0:07:13.958,0:07:16.125
sit downs and we've held to that.
Yep.

0:07:16.125,0:07:19.750
And then I when we came up, the idea
to have this podcast to be

0:07:19.750,0:07:20.791
able to communicate,

0:07:21.958,0:07:24.833
the Ogden Way, we want
to have you here to do the same thing.

0:07:24.833,0:07:26.791
Well, again, I appreciate it very much.

0:07:26.791,0:07:30.250
And, our conversations
have have been meaningful.

0:07:31.208,0:07:31.625
Doesn't mean

0:07:31.625,0:07:34.250
we're going to agree on everything
as we move forward all the time.

0:07:34.250,0:07:38.166
But, given the opportunity for the mayor
to come in and sit with us,

0:07:38.166,0:07:40.083
it is an honor. Obviously.

0:07:40.083,0:07:42.541
And, we, we appreciate it very much.

0:07:42.541,0:07:46.166
So maybe we can sit here and say nice
things about each other for an hour, but.

0:07:46.166,0:07:48.208
Well, I'm going to-I'm
going to tighten the screws on you now.

0:07:48.208,0:07:51.208
No, please, feel free.
So,

0:07:51.208,0:07:54.625
So one of the things that we talk about
with the Ogden Way

0:07:55.250,0:07:57.666
is we talk about

0:07:57.666,0:08:00.500
- we want to create an environment
where, where

0:08:00.500,0:08:03.125
there's opportunities and access
to opportunities. Right.

0:08:03.125,0:08:06.208

But but to me, as the mayor
and really consistent

0:08:06.208,0:08:09.208
with all of the values
that I've seen and learned in Ogden, is

0:08:09.791,0:08:12.791
we all have to take ownership
for ourselves.

0:08:12.958,0:08:16.833
We all have to take the initiative
and invest in ourselves and do the work

0:08:17.291,0:08:20.333
to take advantage of opportunities
and level up right.

0:08:21.333,0:08:24.500
But I
want that to be built in in the Ogden Way.

0:08:25.000,0:08:29.375
But I also want it to be built in that as
we rise, we help those around us to rise.

0:08:29.500,0:08:30.291
Right?

0:08:30.291,0:08:33.583
And I think what I hear
you talk about your fundamentals

0:08:33.583,0:08:37.083
for journalism and what you hope
to achieve for the Standard Examiner.

0:08:37.750,0:08:41.291
I hear the same thing where you want
to put factual information out to people,

0:08:41.416,0:08:44.416
and you want them to arrive at their own
conclusions based on the facts,

0:08:44.833,0:08:48.875
instead of someone else's opinion forming
their opinion, or just setting it right.

0:08:49.541,0:08:53.416
So that's my way of talking about
some of the values around the underway.

0:08:53.416,0:08:55.958
What are some of the values that you want
for the Standard Examiner,

0:08:55.958,0:08:59.791
and how does it how do those values play
into being a community newspaper?

0:09:00.000,0:09:02.208
You know, so it's a great question.

0:09:02.208,0:09:04.916
The starts with though the the

0:09:06.333,0:09:08.583
the factual basis of reporting.

0:09:08.583,0:09:09.750
Right.

0:09:09.750,0:09:12.750
And not having any bias whatsoever
in the game.

0:09:13.833,0:09:16.458
We obviously have various employees

0:09:16.458,0:09:19.583
that are either leading left or right,
and that's fine.

0:09:19.583,0:09:23.541
At the end day,
it doesn't matter to me. What matters to me

0:09:23.541,0:09:26.625
is the beginning of a good newspaper

0:09:26.625,0:09:29.625
that reports the factual data.

0:09:29.708,0:09:32.541
I mean, that's
has to be the foundation, right?

0:09:32.541,0:09:36.333
Or what are we if we're not that

0:09:37.708,0:09:39.458
secondly would be

0:09:39.458,0:09:43.083
as we've
now become comfortable with the ownership

0:09:43.083,0:09:46.125
or with myself as being publisher,
coming from another state,

0:09:47.500,0:09:50.500
I think now it's time
to look a little more at the community

0:09:50.791,0:09:54.541
and see what our role is
and what it can be.

0:09:55.000,0:09:58.000
How do we get
maybe a little more involved?

0:09:58.583,0:10:00.208
And what does that look like?

0:10:00.208,0:10:02.583
You know,
just just a whole gamut of things.

0:10:02.583,0:10:02.916
Right?

0:10:02.916,0:10:03.791
And it's not necessarily

0:10:03.791,0:10:07.708
just myself, but we have staff members
that have been with us for, you know, 40

0:10:07.708,0:10:11.291
years, 45 years, and they're truly
invested in the community.

0:10:11.708,0:10:13.083
And they too would be,

0:10:15.625,0:10:18.791
great sponsors of of your program
and things like that as well,

0:10:18.791,0:10:19.541
because they would believe

0:10:19.541,0:10:23.083

in what you're saying and live their lives
that way here in Ogden.

0:10:23.916,0:10:27.416

So I think there's a bigger role
for the newspaper as well,

0:10:28.000,0:10:31.416

from just being a factual reporting,

0:10:33.250,0:10:35.791

newspaper, but also to get back

0:10:35.791,0:10:38.791

into involvement in the city and,

0:10:38.833,0:10:43.666

join organizations and be more involved,
to be more seen in the community.

0:10:44.250,0:10:46.833

And I'd like to try to see that happen
over this

0:10:46.833,0:10:49.833

next year or two and build on that.

0:10:49.833,0:10:52.791

Our paper is not going away.

0:10:52.791,0:10:54.791

You know, we're still six days a week.

0:10:54.791,0:10:59.041

You're you have the only six day
a week paper in the in the state.

0:11:00.500,0:11:03.541

Our other paper,
Daily Herald, is also six days a week.

0:11:03.875,0:11:06.083

But you go to the Tribune,
it's two days a week.

0:11:06.083,0:11:08.208

You go to Deseret
News. It's two days a week.

0:11:10.208,0:11:12.000

The, Saint George paper.

0:11:12.000,0:11:15.000

It's a shell of the paper
that's left down there.

0:11:15.583,0:11:19.750

So, you know, we feel very privileged
that our company allows us to continue

0:11:19.750,0:11:23.583

being six days a week and provide
the news that we provide to the community.

0:11:23.583,0:11:27.125

And, and the involvement
that we want to get into the community.

0:11:27.125,0:11:30.125

So that's something we'd like to learn
more about as we move forward.

0:11:30.125,0:11:33.958

What opportunities are are,
what what team members do we have that

0:11:33.958,0:11:36.958

might be able to fit those those areas
and so on and so on?

0:11:37.083,0:11:39.666
Sure. Well,

0:11:39.666,0:11:42.125
part of why you're able to do
six days a week

0:11:42.125,0:11:44.791
is because you have all the print
capability.

0:11:44.791,0:11:46.250
Well, there is that right?

0:11:46.250,0:11:46.791
Is that right?

0:11:46.791,0:11:49.291
Yeah.
Yeah. We, I mean, we literally, print

0:11:50.458,0:11:51.541
75-80-

0:11:51.541,0:11:54.541
85% of all the newspapers in the state.

0:11:55.625,0:11:58.750
You know, all the way down from Saint
George and, all the way up north.

0:11:58.750,0:12:01.750
So, any major paper we print.

0:12:01.916,0:12:04.291
And we're very fortunate to do that.

0:12:04.291,0:12:07.833
We're also, just picked up
a huge printing job in New Mexico.

0:12:07.833,0:12:11.958
We do 143,000, magazines
every single month

0:12:11.958,0:12:15.791
now that are 64 pages,
and we ship them over to New Mexico.

0:12:15.791,0:12:17.583
So we continue to grow.

0:12:17.583,0:12:20.583
We're looking at other,
opportunities of growth.

0:12:21.791,0:12:24.833
The Standard Examiner
is only one of two companies

0:12:24.833,0:12:27.750
that own their own facility at the BDO.

0:12:27.750,0:12:31.250
We have 180,000ft?? on 15 acres.

0:12:31.250,0:12:34.250
And, the company is very proud
to be part of Ogden.

0:12:34.750,0:12:37.208
Our actually company name is,

0:12:37.208,0:12:40.208
Ogden newspapers of West Virginia

0:12:40.625,0:12:43.291
and the, founder back in the 1800s.

0:12:43.291,0:12:44.166
His name is Ogden.

0:12:45.333,0:12:46.166
Well, let's look.

0:12:46.166,0:12:47.291
There you. Go. Right.

0:12:47.291,0:12:51.750
So, I mean, having having 16 newspapers
and having one in in the city of Ogden,

0:12:52.750,0:12:54.666
means a lot to the company.

0:12:54.666,0:12:57.625
They love coming out here. They love Utah.

0:12:57.625,0:13:00.625
They're very committed,
to our future. And,

0:13:01.125,0:13:02.083
So it's we're excited.

0:13:02.083,0:13:05.875
So the reason all of this is important
is because those are all things

0:13:05.916,0:13:11.291
that sustain financially, healthy
and thriving company, which then gives us

0:13:11.708,0:13:15.041
a much stronger chance of having a healthy
and thriving community newspaper.

0:13:15.458,0:13:17.250
And so I think there's a lot
there's gonna be a lot of people

0:13:17.250,0:13:19.083
that are watching and listening
that are going to really like

0:13:19.083,0:13:21.708
hearing all these things,
because it gives them hope that

0:13:21.708,0:13:22.916
the newspaper can continue.

0:13:22.916,0:13:25.416
On something that they were
speaking earlier. Right. And,

0:13:26.541,0:13:27.250
it's no challenge.

0:13:27.250,0:13:28.625
It's it's no secret.

0:13:28.625,0:13:30.791
It's a challenge
to get advertising in the paper.

0:13:30.791,0:13:32.708
I mean, you can just open the paper.

0:13:32.708,0:13:35.166
It's not a secret. Right?

0:13:35.166,0:13:38.166

So there's a company in there
called New Way Mattress.

0:13:38.291,0:13:40.083
I'm not getting a free mattress
or anything.

0:13:40.083,0:13:42.916
So there was a company called New
Way Mattress.

0:13:42.916,0:13:45.916
He runs a full page in our paper

0:13:46.041,0:13:48.083
every single week,

0:13:48.083,0:13:49.583
and we'll tell you how much it is.

0:13:49.583,0:13:52.583
It's not cheap every single week.

0:13:53.458,0:13:57.291
If anybody sees that ad in there
every single week

0:13:57.291,0:14:00.291
and thinks he's doing it
because he's a nice guy,

0:14:01.083,0:14:02.875
they're fooling themselves.

0:14:02.875,0:14:06.791
He's doing it because he gets a tremendous
amount a business out of it.

0:14:07.416,0:14:09.708
The guy on the front,

0:14:09.708,0:14:12.458
the six by two, one on the front.

0:14:12.458,0:14:13.541
Same thing with him.

0:14:13.541,0:14:14.833
He's in all the time.

0:14:14.833,0:14:16.958
The train guy over here in Washington.

0:14:18.541,0:14:21.791
I mean,
he has a tree museum and advertises

0:14:21.791,0:14:25.083
with us all the time because he saw
so many darn trains out of our paper.

0:14:25.750,0:14:28.708
So people don't understand.
It works.

0:14:28.708,0:14:29.791
That it actually works.

0:14:29.791,0:14:32.166
When you make a commitment to the paper,

0:14:32.166,0:14:34.541
somebody spends,
you know, a couple of hundred bucks

0:14:34.541,0:14:37.958
for a one time run, and then they're like,
well, you didn't bring me \$10,000

0:14:37.958,0:14:38.583
worth of business.

0:14:38.583,0:14:40.708
I've never running with you again.

0:14:40.708,0:14:42.875
It's like, are you guys kidding?

0:14:42.875,0:14:45.291
Look at the people that are in there
consistently

0:14:45.291,0:14:48.500
supporting the paper
because that's truly what matters, right?

0:14:48.541,0:14:51.791
These guys are not writing this
checks every month because they like me.

0:14:53.083,0:14:54.250
But you seem pretty likable to me.

0:14:54.250,0:14:57.208
Well, I mean, I agree, but I mean,
you know, that's not the case though.

0:14:57.208,0:14:59.583
But I mean, it's it's crazy.

0:14:59.583,0:15:02.250
I don't understand
when companies look at us

0:15:02.250,0:15:05.291
and they see the frequency of these people
that are spending money.

0:15:05.583,0:15:08.916
And new mattress has been in there
for probably like 3 or 4 years now.

0:15:09.250,0:15:12.708
You know, listen to you
tell that story or those stories?

0:15:14.375,0:15:15.250
I bet there's people are are

0:15:15.250,0:15:18.125
thinking,
oh, that's that's the old school way.

0:15:18.125,0:15:19.416
And maybe, maybe it is.

0:15:19.416,0:15:22.791
But the point being,
the old school way wasn't wrong way.

0:15:23.375,0:15:26.166
The old school ways are the right ways.

0:15:26.166,0:15:30.166
Like they're rooted in fundamentals
that I think that we need to remember

0:15:30.166,0:15:35.500
and bring back to life, around integrity,
around loyalty, around community,

0:15:35.750,0:15:40.000
around caring about one another,
listening to each other, disagreeing.

0:15:40.000,0:15:41.291

No problem.
Absolutely.

0:15:41.291,0:15:43.625
There's nothing about unity
that means agreeing.

0:15:43.625,0:15:46.041
Yeah, unity
does not mean that we all agree.

0:15:46.041,0:15:48.958
It doesn't mean that that
you have to agree with everything I do.

0:15:48.958,0:15:51.958
All I ask for is an opportunity
to explain myself,

0:15:52.416,0:15:55.250
to share the journey that I went
on, the decisions that I made

0:15:55.250,0:15:58.250
and why based on the
the seat that I occupy right.

0:15:58.458,0:16:00.083
There's a lot of different factors
that go into things.

0:16:00.083,0:16:01.791
I mean, that's very well put.

0:16:03.000,0:16:04.833
Just the the trying to get

0:16:04.833,0:16:08.666
that message out
is difficult enough to our rivals users.

0:16:08.666,0:16:09.500
Right.

0:16:09.500,0:16:13.083
Getting that message out to 90,000 people
is just going to be a little tougher.

0:16:13.166,0:16:14.833
Well, I'm. Not to be a little tougher.

0:16:14.833,0:16:15.291
It is.

0:16:15.291,0:16:16.458
And I'm not. Naive.

0:16:16.458,0:16:17.875
I know, I know, I know you're not.

0:16:17.875,0:16:19.000
I know that we're not going to,

0:16:19.000,0:16:21.833
you know, just convert
or convince all these people.

0:16:21.833,0:16:26.166
But I think the reason
that I like this venue in this forum

0:16:26.166,0:16:29.958
and why I asked my staff to help me put
this together, is because

0:16:31.458,0:16:34.458
the world is not answerable in these

0:16:34.625,0:16:38.750

basic causal yes or no answers like this.

0:16:39.041,0:16:40.750

Things are things are complicated.

0:16:40.750,0:16:42.541

It's there's dynamics afoot.

0:16:42.541,0:16:45.791

There's everybody in
the city has different and varying needs.

0:16:45.791,0:16:49.541

So how do you provide for the most
possible success and and and opportunity.

0:16:49.541,0:16:52.416

You know what I mean.
And it requires conversation.

0:16:52.416,0:16:52.708

Yeah.

0:16:52.708,0:16:56.583

It's interesting because you know,
we spoke earlier a little bit about,

0:16:57.750,0:17:00.750

a teacher and we spoke about a school.

0:17:00.791,0:17:03.666

And because it's being recorded,
I'm not going to say,

0:17:03.666,0:17:05.833

you know, specifically
about this one student.

0:17:05.833,0:17:07.208

Right.

0:17:07.208,0:17:10.458

But he has a student that

0:17:11.500,0:17:15.541

super
nice kid, smarter than all heck right.

0:17:16.708,0:17:18.458

Doesn't do his homework.

0:17:18.458,0:17:21.458

Comes in and he's half asleep.

0:17:22.291,0:17:23.416

And the teacher

0:17:23.416,0:17:26.916

could not understand
what is wrong with this person.

0:17:26.916,0:17:29.708

Why he's not connecting with him. Right.

0:17:29.708,0:17:32.708

So one day the teacher is at a major

0:17:33.875,0:17:36.041

retailer

0:17:36.041,0:17:39.041

and from across the way he gets his name
yelled out

0:17:40.125,0:17:43.125

and he's looking around and goes,
hey, what are you doing here?

0:17:43.291,0:17:46.291

I work here,
what do you mean you work here?

0:17:46.833,0:17:49.708

Cuz I work here all night.

0:17:49.708,0:17:50.250

That's why he's.

0:17:50.250,0:17:50.583

Tired.

0:17:50.583,0:17:53.791

And, you know, if I don't work,
we don't have,

0:17:54.041,0:17:57.833

food on the table and we don't pay rent,
so I have to help my family.

0:17:58.875,0:18:01.875

This is a kid.

0:18:01.958,0:18:02.708

So when you

0:18:02.708,0:18:03.791

when you think about that.

0:18:03.791,0:18:06.791

Right? On the surface, there's an opinion.

0:18:08.291,0:18:10.416

But then when you dig deeper
into the community

0:18:10.416,0:18:13.708

or whatever
it may be, you learn so much more.

0:18:14.833,0:18:18.250

And I think listening to you,
I think that's

0:18:18.250,0:18:21.291

where you want to go with it
as a community and as a mayor.

0:18:22.083,0:18:27.458

And certainly we would like to see
how we could be involved with that.

0:18:27.458,0:18:31.125

But listening to that story last night
when I was talking to this person,

0:18:32.375,0:18:35.333

you know, we're so quick to judge,

0:18:35.333,0:18:37.583

have an opinion

0:18:37.583,0:18:39.916

and potentially move on
without helping that person.

0:18:39.916,0:18:42.916

Right? Because we assumed

0:18:43.291,0:18:47.125

they didn't want to, you know, they
weren't helping themselves.

0:18:47.125,0:18:48.791

Right.

0:18:48.791,0:18:51.458

Turns out he's helping himself all night
long, right?

0:18:51.458,0:18:53.208

To the point to to his detriment.

0:18:53.208,0:18:56.166

Right to where when he shows up school
and trying to help himself out of the hole

0:18:56.166,0:18:59.416

that they're in, he's exhausted
and he's struggling to actually perform.

0:18:59.750,0:19:03.000

Yeah.

And that is a very real story that happens

0:19:03.750,0:19:05.666

across the country,
including in our community.

0:19:06.708,0:19:08.375

And so

0:19:08.375,0:19:11.375

that's why I when I talk about,
you know, people,

0:19:11.791,0:19:14.625

people just have this automatic,
you're in, you're a politician

0:19:14.625,0:19:17.416

and I am

I get it, I'm an elected official,

0:19:17.416,0:19:20.000

but I don't want to be hung around
politics

0:19:20.000,0:19:22.000

when there's so many people
that are having a hard time.

0:19:22.000,0:19:23.541

Yeah,

there's people that are having our time,

0:19:23.541,0:19:25.083

but there's also people
that are succeeding

0:19:25.083,0:19:27.583

and want to continue to succeed
and to thrive.

0:19:27.583,0:19:30.166

And there's also a lot of people
who are succeeding that want to help other

0:19:30.166,0:19:33.166

people lift and rise as they're rising to.

0:19:33.208,0:19:35.583

And so to me,

0:19:35.583,0:19:38.750

sometimes I it's not just sometimes,
all too often

0:19:38.750,0:19:41.791

we create the cracks that our kids
are falling through, and the cracks

0:19:41.791,0:19:46.083

are the space in between our voices,

the way that we don't give each other

0:19:46.291,0:19:50.666
the grace and the understanding
and the willingness to just sit and listen

0:19:50.666,0:19:54.416
and to actually understand
and to start in our conversations

0:19:55.000,0:19:58.000
that we come from a good place,
not from an evil place.

0:19:58.041,0:19:58.500
Right?

0:19:58.500,0:20:00.666
Man is inherently good, not nearly evil.

0:20:00.666,0:20:02.458
It's what I was taught that I was raised.

0:20:02.458,0:20:05.791
I'm not asking for everybody to agree with
me, or to support me or to vote for me.

0:20:06.375,0:20:09.375
I'm just asking to be treated
as a human being that's trying to do

0:20:09.541,0:20:11.791
good things
for other humans in this human experience.

0:20:11.791,0:20:12.875
Yeah, right.

0:20:12.875,0:20:13.208
Yeah.

0:20:13.208,0:20:14.916
If we could do more of that,
I think that we could help

0:20:14.916,0:20:16.458
more kids like you're explaining.

0:20:16.458,0:20:19.166
Yeah.
And I think this particular person. Right.

0:20:19.166,0:20:21.958
He actually, worked
for us a long time back. And,

0:20:23.166,0:20:25.416
decided that he was going to leave the,

0:20:25.416,0:20:28.708
the profession of being a reporter
and become a teacher

0:20:29.500,0:20:32.750
because he felt he was in a position
now where if he could help one kid,

0:20:32.750,0:20:34.208
just help one person. Right.

0:20:34.208,0:20:37.541
And he would have been
a successful transition and so on.

0:20:37.541,0:20:40.875
So I, you know,
you hear stories like that, I it's just

0:20:42.625,0:20:45.625
it's, it means a lot. And,

0:20:46.166,0:20:50.125
I think as we look at ventures

0:20:50.125,0:20:53.708
or ideas or programs or concepts,
whatever you want to say,

0:20:55.083,0:20:59.500
for us, it's good to be with that
in mind of how can we actually help

0:21:00.208,0:21:02.791
and not just get our brand out there,
right?

0:21:02.791,0:21:03.666
You know, that type of stuff.

0:21:03.666,0:21:06.750
But how can we actually make a difference
how we actually help someone

0:21:07.333,0:21:10.541
who's struggling
with, you know, speaking English and,

0:21:10.541,0:21:14.500
you know, different things like that
because as soon as they're home, it's 100%

0:21:14.500,0:21:17.500
back to Hispanic or,
you know, whatever it may be, right?

0:21:17.625,0:21:19.208
Is, is how do we help?

0:21:19.208,0:21:23.291
How do we try to make a difference and
with what tools we have, what can we do?

0:21:23.541,0:21:25.000
Well, so we'll see.

0:21:25.000,0:21:27.291
What I'm what I'm hearing you
describe to me is exactly what

0:21:27.291,0:21:29.250
I would think
a community newspaper ought to be.

0:21:29.250,0:21:33.958
It's reporting on the facts, holding,
you know, public officials accountable,

0:21:34.291,0:21:37.708
but communicating the answers
as they're presented, letting other people

0:21:37.708,0:21:40.708
make their own decisions to do the work,
to arrive at their own opinion,

0:21:41.000,0:21:43.500
while also being mindful of the people
that we're here to serve

0:21:43.500,0:21:45.916
and to help educate and inform. Right?

0:21:45.916,0:21:47.083
Being an active

0:21:48.958,0:21:50.500

will be an active part of a community.

0:21:50.500,0:21:52.208

That's a community newspaper.

0:21:52.208,0:21:54.125

You're an active part of our community.

0:21:54.125,0:21:56.833

And I think that's
what I want to help you do.

0:21:56.833,0:22:00.291

And I want to let I want you to help me
be a better mayor and hold me accountable.

0:22:00.416,0:22:01.416

That's the arrangement.

0:22:01.416,0:22:03.750

It's like an arrangement. It's
just an agreement that we have.

0:22:03.750,0:22:07.333

And, you know I think we've taken the first steps over this past year, right?

0:22:07.333,0:22:12.583

I mean, with with the, with the quarterly
meetings and, the invitation here today.

0:22:13.166,0:22:14.583

So I think we're well underway.

0:22:14.583,0:22:19.208

And, you know, although we, we sit here
and we praise and believe

0:22:19.208,0:22:23.541

in what you're saying, it's, you know,
for many people, it's going to be okay.

0:22:24.125,0:22:26.041

Sounded good.
Verify.

0:22:26.041,0:22:28.625

They sounded really good.
I mean, you know.

0:22:28.625,0:22:31.291

So let's see what that looks like,
right? I mean, I certainly,

0:22:32.500,0:22:35.291

you know, you talked about,

0:22:35.291,0:22:37.291

politicians
being criminals and things and,

0:22:37.291,0:22:40.291

you know, people
look at them immediately like that.

0:22:40.541,0:22:43.833

And I think we spoke a little bit earlier
that, you know, I'm just the opposite.

0:22:43.833,0:22:46.833

I mean, you know, until I find out
otherwise, you know, I'm certainly

0:22:46.833,0:22:50.458

going to respect who a person is
until I found out they are a crook.

0:22:50.708,0:22:50.958

Right?

0:22:50.958,0:22:53.958

You know,
if they are correct, for that matter. But,

0:22:54.333,0:22:57.375

to insinuate that, you know, I'm
sitting across from a corrupt

0:22:57.416,0:22:59.666

or someone who's,
you know, a politician must be a crook.

0:22:59.666,0:23:03.416

I mean, I, I think that's part
of our issue in today's society overall.

0:23:03.416,0:23:05.958

Right?
Yeah. That's exactly the problem.

0:23:05.958,0:23:09.666

And so, you know,
if we if we can function that way

0:23:10.375,0:23:13.375

with accountability and transparency,

0:23:13.500,0:23:16.500

I think it gives us a better chance
of succeeding as a community.

0:23:16.958,0:23:19.416

But one of the things
that you and I shared last time

0:23:19.416,0:23:22.416

we sat down at the editorial table

0:23:22.833,0:23:25.416

was I shared the story
that, and actually we've had,

0:23:26.583,0:23:27.833

Delores Banks Green

0:23:27.833,0:23:30.583

as a guest on this podcast,
and we've talked about the story time

0:23:30.583,0:23:33.291

and time again,
because I promise to the kids

0:23:33.291,0:23:36.000

from then, the Black Student Union,

0:23:36.000,0:23:38.291

now, the Urban Student Alliance of Ben
Lomond,

0:23:38.291,0:23:39.583

that I wasn't going to forget their story.

0:23:39.583,0:23:42.583

I was going to learn
from what they told me to help serve

0:23:43.166,0:23:46.000

not just them, but serve our city.

0:23:46.000,0:23:48.541

And what I communicate to you
is that there are kids in the Ben Lomond

0:23:48.541,0:23:52.125

community, but based on what
they're telling me, they're losing hope.

0:23:52.291,0:23:53.083

Yeah.

0:23:53.083,0:23:55.666

They're, they're just feeling like everything is lost.

0:23:55.666,0:23:58.666

There's, there's just this.

0:24:00.041,0:24:02.375

There's just this sense of

0:24:02.375,0:24:04.416

How sad is that?
sadness.

0:24:04.416,0:24:06.458

I mean, how old are they?

0:24:06.458,0:24:08.208

Yeah. They're not even 18. They're not.

0:24:08.208,0:24:10.416

And they're already at this point too many of them.

0:24:10.416,0:24:11.791

And it may not be. It's not all of them.

0:24:11.791,0:24:12.875

No no no, no, but

0:24:12.875,0:24:13.625

but just the sense

0:24:13.625,0:24:16.625

that they're telling me that that means there's a good number of kids

0:24:16.958,0:24:20.791

that we're losing to participate in our community and literally could lose.

0:24:21.500,0:24:24.166

We could lose kids in this community if they don't have hope.

0:24:24.166,0:24:27.250

And so I have talked with you about what can we do to help give these kids hope

0:24:27.250,0:24:28.166

Yeah, absolutely.

0:24:28.166,0:24:32.458

And so one of the initiatives if if we're going to go in that direction

0:24:32.458,0:24:33.916

right now is, is the,

0:24:35.500,0:24:38.291

newspapers in education

0:24:38.291,0:24:41.291

and we're committing to, the next 12 months here,

0:24:41.833,0:24:45.083

providing 500 free newspapers

0:24:45.083,0:24:49.625

on Saturdays, mailed in to residents and access

0:24:49.625,0:24:54.875

to, to our website, which,
which is a retail value of about \$200,000.

0:24:55.541,0:24:58.541
You know, it's funded, in part by,

0:24:59.291,0:25:01.583
donations from our readers over the years.

0:25:01.583,0:25:04.541
And we keep that money
and we put it on a site.

0:25:04.541,0:25:07.291
It's it's a well known program
throughout the world

0:25:07.291,0:25:10.291
or throughout the United States
for newspapers.

0:25:10.375,0:25:15.083
And, and when we come across
a, a program or

0:25:16.083,0:25:18.375
an area that can benefit,

0:25:18.375,0:25:20.791
we go ahead and we take that money,

0:25:20.791,0:25:23.791
we put it forth for the program and,

0:25:25.000,0:25:26.750
there's also other discussions going on

0:25:26.750,0:25:29.750
with Ben Lomond School
one of the teachers there,

0:25:30.958,0:25:33.000
about what

0:25:33.000,0:25:37.708
how active can we get into the community
and really try to make a difference?

0:25:37.708,0:25:38.916
Right.

0:25:38.916,0:25:41.375
And it's a lot of it's
going to be also one

0:25:41.375,0:25:45.750
who raises their hand and says, hey,
you know, I'd like to participate, right.

0:25:45.750,0:25:46.541
Self initiative.

0:25:46.541,0:25:47.208
Yeah. Yeah.

0:25:47.208,0:25:49.750
I mean, if, if, if we don't have that
and then we probably have

0:25:49.750,0:25:51.458
a little bit
of a bigger issue. Right.

0:25:53.250,0:25:56.500
But again we come all the way
back to the start of the conversation, but

0:25:56.666,0:25:59.875

we just want to figure out what our places

0:25:59.875,0:26:04.625
in the community,
how we can help or we can help get your,

0:26:04.958,0:26:08.041
your message across
communicated to all 90,000,

0:26:09.458,0:26:12.416
formation of possible Spanish pages

0:26:12.416,0:26:15.708
and different things like that into your,
your communication pieces.

0:26:16.625,0:26:19.666
That a previous company used to do for you
and things like that.

0:26:19.666,0:26:22.500
And we'd certainly like to discuss
picking that up

0:26:22.500,0:26:25.208
and, trying to help the community
with that and get that message out

0:26:25.208,0:26:28.500
through to all 90,000 people
in the various languages that there are.

0:26:29.583,0:26:33.125
So one of the things that we do on
the show is we kind of finish

0:26:33.125,0:26:35.375
with the call to action,
and I'll just do the spoiler.

0:26:35.375,0:26:38.375
But oftentimes
that call to action is be a connector.

0:26:38.708,0:26:41.708
And I think that one thing
that we can do to help with

0:26:41.708,0:26:44.708
this initiative is to connect you with
some of these students and these kids.

0:26:44.708,0:26:48.875
These kids that I met with
are they're genuine leaders.

0:26:49.208,0:26:51.041
They don't even know it in some cases.

0:26:51.041,0:26:54.250
But the way that they engage in the
the level at which they

0:26:54.833,0:26:58.625
understand and, and and I mean, it just

0:27:00.541,0:27:02.500
inspired me when I sat with them.

0:27:02.500,0:27:04.041
So I remember you're talking about it
Right?

0:27:04.041,0:27:05.583
Yeah. Yeah, very much so.

0:27:05.583,0:27:08.375

So these are kids
that have influence in the school.

0:27:08.375,0:27:09.333
They have friends.

0:27:09.333,0:27:12.333
They have a, a status,
whatever you want to say.

0:27:12.541,0:27:16.708
But I think that they could really help
you, connect kids that want to participate

0:27:16.708,0:27:20.291
in this to to to learn what it's like
to have daily access to the communities.

0:27:20.291,0:27:23.375
Better to be up to date
on all of the things that are happening

0:27:23.375,0:27:26.375
in the city,
to know that the newspaper was provided

0:27:26.833,0:27:29.791
because of a community partner,
because of a conversation

0:27:29.791,0:27:32.833
that one of your peers and your friends
in your school had with the mayor.

0:27:33.250,0:27:36.708
I think that those kinds of things,
you know, we we were early on thinking

0:27:36.708,0:27:39.333
like, what can we do to help
give these kids hope?

0:27:39.333,0:27:42.125
I think having hope means
knowing that they're heard.

0:27:42.125,0:27:42.791
Right.

0:27:42.791,0:27:45.791
So to me, it's important
that they have access to me,

0:27:45.958,0:27:48.708
that I'm the mayor of the city
and they have access to that.

0:27:48.708,0:27:50.708
Whatever you want to call
the highest seat of power if you want.

0:27:50.708,0:27:52.125
Oh, yeah, right as it is.

0:27:52.125,0:27:56.583
And so they get to sit in my office
and have a full hour asking me questions

0:27:56.583,0:27:57.291
that they need to know.

0:27:57.291,0:27:59.375
And, and I only thing
I ask them to go back

0:27:59.375,0:28:02.500
and tell your friends,
because their friends need to know that

0:28:02.500,0:28:05.500
they also have access to their mayor
and to the highest power.

0:28:06.041,0:28:10.208
And so to know that they were heard
really goes to the lesson that

0:28:10.625,0:28:13.916
that I learned from John Watson and Steve
Peterson from My Hometown Ogden,

0:28:14.791,0:28:18.250
that it was a they were prior guests
talking about volunteerism,

0:28:18.250,0:28:22.916
but they say we listen to these kids,
we love them and we lift them.

0:28:23.541,0:28:26.541
And I think that that's
what your initiative is going to do.

0:28:26.791,0:28:29.250
And I love the fact
that I got to be a connector

0:28:29.250,0:28:32.041
to just share what they shared with me,
share it with you.

0:28:32.041,0:28:35.041
And now you have this whole ability
and tools

0:28:35.916,0:28:38.916
to go and lift these kids, right?

0:28:39.541,0:28:40.375
That's what the hope is.

0:28:40.375,0:28:41.041
That's the hope.

0:28:41.041,0:28:44.291
And so I have confidence that these kids
are going to take advantage

0:28:44.291,0:28:45.541
of the opportunity.

0:28:45.541,0:28:47.125
And I'm going to I'm going
to make sure that and help.

0:28:47.125,0:28:48.166
Yeah. No please. Please.

0:28:48.166,0:28:48.916
Yeah I mean

0:28:48.916,0:28:52.333
like I said, I mean, this all came back
from, from I think it was our last,

0:28:54.208,0:28:57.375
or last, at a board
meeting when you were talking about that

0:28:57.375,0:29:01.000
and you left and I sat in my office
mean, I think, you know, we

0:29:01.541,0:29:06.958
we just need to get more involved
and see with what we have, what can we do?

0:29:06.958,0:29:09.083

Right, right. And,

0:29:09.083,0:29:12.500

you know, if we don't try, certainly
we're not going to make a difference. So.

0:29:12.875,0:29:15.166

Yeah. Well, thank you for

0:29:15.166,0:29:16.291

thank you for listening.

0:29:16.291,0:29:16.708

Yeah.

0:29:16.708,0:29:19.708

I mean, listening to me, but in listening
to me, we're listening to them.

0:29:19.875,0:29:23.166

And thanks for loving the kids
and doing your part to help lift them.

0:29:23.916,0:29:26.041

But whatever you do, don't stop.

0:29:26.041,0:29:27.666

Hold me accountable.

0:29:27.666,0:29:30.041

Keep twisting. Or you.

0:29:30.041,0:29:32.458

Tighten
the screws just like you always do.

0:29:32.458,0:29:33.875

But, I mean, it's all good, though, right?

0:29:33.875,0:29:35.666

I mean, it's it's a conversation.

0:29:35.666,0:29:37.000

It's it's a discussion.

0:29:37.000,0:29:39.875

And, you know. It's just good.
It's just professional.

0:29:39.875,0:29:41.916

It is. And it's really good.

0:29:41.916,0:29:44.625

Regardless what I'm certain
you were saying about you, I mean,

0:29:44.625,0:29:45.708

you know, at the end of the day,

0:29:45.708,0:29:48.166

if there is something
that we need to call you out

0:29:48.166,0:29:51.125

and we're we're going to call you out
and say, hey, yeah, what happened here?

0:29:51.125,0:29:54.916

So if anybody's read the,
the print article about our quarterly sit downs

0:29:55.500,0:29:58.750

You should go watch the entire video
and you'll see exactly when I don't answer

0:29:58.750,0:29:59.833

the questions completely.

0:29:59.833,0:30:02.833

And he follows up, and then I say, I'm not sure what you mean.

0:30:03.083,0:30:06.000

He keeps on pressing the present, pressing.

0:30:06.000,0:30:09.000

I do believe, though, that's an issue in politics, so that,

0:30:09.458,0:30:10.833

there's too many vague questions.

0:30:10.833,0:30:15.041

Not not in our case, but in politics overall, too many vague questions. And

0:30:16.458,0:30:19.416

very seldomly, does anybody answer the question right.

0:30:19.416,0:30:22.041

It's this transactional dance that they're doing with each other.

0:30:22.041,0:30:23.708

And it's like, well, what are you trying to get out of me?

0:30:23.708,0:30:27.250

And what am I trying to tell you and hope that you'll put down, make me look good?

0:30:27.541,0:30:30.458

Yeah, yeah. This is no way to live, frankly.

0:30:30.458,0:30:31.333

No it's not.

0:30:31.333,0:30:33.583

What's that? But, Yeah. So we're excited.

0:30:33.583,0:30:35.291

We're excited about that initiative.

0:30:35.291,0:30:38.291

We'll be putting that in place here in the next couple of weeks, and,

0:30:38.791,0:30:39.750

we'll go from there with it.

0:30:39.750,0:30:40.083

Okay.

0:30:40.083,0:30:42.291

I'm gonna introduce you to Delores.

0:30:42.291,0:30:44.000

Delores is also a connector.

0:30:44.000,0:30:45.416

Yeah, she's got tons of energy.

0:30:45.416,0:30:48.041

She she loves her kids, loves our city.

0:30:48.041,0:30:50.000

She just wants to do everything you can to help the kids.

0:30:50.000,0:30:52.291

And hopefully by the next time,

0:30:54.125,0:30:55.166
we talked with Delores.

0:30:55.166,0:30:56.375
We've got some ideas for

0:30:56.375,0:30:59.375
For her, for those kids as well,
that we're kind of

0:30:59.500,0:31:01.833
squaring her away on our side, too
I think

0:31:01.833,0:31:04.458
I think the interesting part
would be to hear from them. Right?

0:31:04.458,0:31:07.083
What is it they're looking for?
What is it they need? Right?
Yeah.

0:31:07.083,0:31:10.416
And then being able to connect,
as you say, as, you know,

0:31:10.958,0:31:13.791
bring it together and say, okay,
well this is what we can do, right?

0:31:13.791,0:31:15.041
Right. And then go from there.

0:31:15.041,0:31:15.708
I've already

0:31:15.708,0:31:16.833
just while we were sitting here,

0:31:16.833,0:31:19.416
my chief of staff, Cindy Weloth is sitting right here.

0:31:19.416,0:31:22.541
I've already watched her write notes down
and guarantee you she's writing.

0:31:22.541,0:31:23.958
Make a meeting.

0:31:23.958,0:31:25.208
Right. We're going to be connectors.

0:31:25.208,0:31:27.375
We're going to make sure
that the Standard Examiner

0:31:27.375,0:31:30.458
publisher not editor Jim Konig, is in touch with

0:31:31.416,0:31:32.458
Delores Banks Green.

0:31:32.458,0:31:33.166
And, you.

0:31:33.166,0:31:36.125
Know, we also have a lot of,
a lot of facilities,

0:31:36.125,0:31:38.916
available at our place for meetings
and different things like that.

0:31:38.916,0:31:41.958
If, you know, the kids need places to go
or do things.

0:31:41.958,0:31:44.166

Or write places
to build floats or whatever.

0:31:44.166,0:31:45.625

Whatever it is, whatever. It is, we

0:31:45.625,0:31:47.166

got a lot of space at our place.

0:31:47.166,0:31:49.000

Well, I think I what I predict

0:31:49.000,0:31:52.000

is those kids are going to end up in
the newspapers here at some point, right?

0:31:52.000,0:31:52.833

That???d be great.

0:31:52.833,0:31:54.541

And that's going to give a lot of kids.

0:31:54.541,0:31:57.541

Oh yeah. When they see themselves

0:31:57.625,0:32:01.583

in when they see themselves and others,
and even if they see others in the paper,

0:32:01.958,0:32:04.166

I told you,
I told you before we started this,

0:32:04.166,0:32:06.833

my daughter's name is in the newspaper
for the first time in her whole life,

0:32:06.833,0:32:09.041

because she scored five points in varsity
as a freshman last night.

0:32:09.041,0:32:11.750

Yeah. That's awesome.
That's a huge deal, right?

0:32:11.750,0:32:12.958

But look what the. That's great though.

0:32:12.958,0:32:16.500

Look what the impact such a small thing
makes for a kid in her life right now.

0:32:17.083,0:32:18.791

Right?
And then same thing with those kids.

0:32:18.791,0:32:22.375

I mean, if they want to write articles
or they have story suggestions or ideas

0:32:22.375,0:32:24.208

or anything else, I mean, we'll certainly,

0:32:24.208,0:32:27.250

sit down and see what we can build on
a weekly basis, monthly basis,

0:32:27.250,0:32:28.083

whatever it is. And,

0:32:29.166,0:32:32.166

get them some recognition and,
maybe some support.

0:32:32.166,0:32:32.875

Awesome.

0:32:32.875,0:32:35.875

The whole the whole goal for me is just to

0:32:36.041,0:32:38.166

just see those kids
in the whole north of the town

0:32:38.166,0:32:40.833

knows that they're a part of Ogden, too,
because they've

0:32:40.833,0:32:42.833

You know, the comment
or two about that.

0:32:42.833,0:32:43.291

Right? Yeah.

0:32:43.291,0:32:47.083

Everything floats into 21st Street and,
you know, downtown and everything else.

0:32:47.083,0:32:49.291

And, you know,

0:32:49.291,0:32:51.500

I don't have enough knowledge
over the last

0:32:51.500,0:32:54.500

five years to see if that's true or not
or, you know, obviously,

0:32:54.541,0:32:57.250

you know,
I go downtown and I see some improvements.

0:32:57.250,0:33:00.000

I dig I think there's a lot more
that needs to be done.

0:33:00.000,0:33:02.166

Of course
with downtown I think there's a.

0:33:02.166,0:33:03.250

Lot to like. It really is.

0:33:03.250,0:33:05.916

Just no, no, no, you you're you're
and I've had this conversation

0:33:05.916,0:33:07.541

about homeless people with the homeless.

0:33:07.541,0:33:10.333

That's and you know, the concerns with
that and everything else, right? I mean,

0:33:12.541,0:33:14.166

it's not going to be resolved overnight.

0:33:14.166,0:33:17.166

You've been in for a year only.

0:33:17.250,0:33:19.583

Yeah
a lot of opportunity still there.

0:33:19.583,0:33:23.208

And, you know, you you've got some major
projects going on, which is great.

0:33:23.541,0:33:26.541

And, and and you'll see
more, more information coming out.

0:33:26.750,0:33:29.291

That's the more things
that we're doing to help them.

0:33:29.291,0:33:34.083

But candidly, it's never going to be
resolved or fixed until everybody helps.

0:33:34.250,0:33:34.833

Yeah.

0:33:34.833,0:33:36.208

And we're in a place right now

0:33:36.208,0:33:39.541

where there are only a handful of cities
that are really doing the heavy lifting,

0:33:40.416,0:33:43.375

and we need every city doing some lifting,
if that would be the case.

0:33:43.375,0:33:44.916

I'm happy to keep lifting.

0:33:44.916,0:33:46.000

We're going to keep doing our part.

0:33:46.000,0:33:48.458

And I always say
that Ogden punches above its weight,

0:33:48.458,0:33:51.458

but we can't do everybody's lifting.

0:33:51.458,0:33:53.250

But to me, it's a matter of humanity.

0:33:53.250,0:33:56.750

Everybody should share in the sense
that there's struggle.

0:33:56.833,0:33:57.041

Yeah.

0:33:57.041,0:34:00.000

And you shared that when you were running
for mayor, right?

0:34:00.000,0:34:00.666

Yeah. And,

0:34:04.000,0:34:06.208

Yeah. I,

0:34:06.208,0:34:07.541

in theory, sounds really good.

0:34:07.541,0:34:08.083

I know, but

0:34:08.083,0:34:10.666

politics, I don't really I know.

0:34:10.666,0:34:12.666

Everybody's clamoring
not to do their part.

0:34:12.666,0:34:14.916

And I walked you outside that day
and, you know,

0:34:14.916,0:34:16.416

we continue talking for a little bit.

0:34:16.416,0:34:19.416

I went back to my office and I said man

0:34:19.458,0:34:22.625
you guys, got the right ideas,
got the right spirit,

0:34:22.625,0:34:25.625
and everything else is just I don't think

0:34:27.041,0:34:30.041
everybody shares
the same compassion that you do

0:34:30.875,0:34:33.708
and has reached out to you and said, well,
let me help you with that.

0:34:33.708,0:34:35.500
Right.
with the cities that surround you.

0:34:35.500,0:34:36.666
Let me just put it that way.

0:34:36.666,0:34:37.041
Right.

0:34:37.041,0:34:39.791
And honestly,
and that's kind of a response.

0:34:39.791,0:34:42.250
I wouldn't say,
because all of them are good people.

0:34:42.250,0:34:44.500
Oh yeah. Yeah, yeah.
It's also things that they're accountable.

0:34:44.500,0:34:46.041
They're they're like,
I don't think they're electorate's

0:34:46.041,0:34:49.250
willing to support them
if they even allow a little bit of it.

0:34:49.250,0:34:51.333
And that's gets back to the problems

0:34:51.333,0:34:54.250
that we're talking about
is that it's a humanity challenge.

0:34:54.250,0:34:57.416
We've got to get back to where we started
this interview about the old school way,

0:34:57.875,0:34:59.458
the old school values.

0:34:59.458,0:35:02.083
We've got to get to a point
where we where we trust one another,

0:35:02.083,0:35:05.166
we believe in one another,
and we invest in ourselves to do the work

0:35:05.166,0:35:08.166
well, invest in others to lift them
while we rise.

0:35:08.166,0:35:09.083
Right?

0:35:09.083,0:35:12.375
That we have a spirit of grit
and a blue collar work ethic

0:35:12.375,0:35:13.250
about us.

0:35:13.250,0:35:16.250
That we've got mental toughness
and some rigor within ourselves

0:35:16.416,0:35:18.916
to overcome challenges,
and that when we fail, we don't fail.

0:35:18.916,0:35:21.458
We just fail forward and we continue on.

0:35:21.458,0:35:23.166
That's life, right?

0:35:23.166,0:35:25.500
And we need more of that in our world.

0:35:25.500,0:35:28.250
So so again, I mean, probably for the time

0:35:28.250,0:35:31.250
I've said it, but, you know,
I agree with your messaging overall.

0:35:31.375,0:35:32.916
It's wonderful, it???s great.

0:35:32.916,0:35:33.666
How do we -

0:35:33.666,0:35:36.375
You know, you've got department
heads are going to filter it down

0:35:36.375,0:35:37.208
and so on and so on.

0:35:37.208,0:35:39.250
And everybody
just needs to keep on pushing it out there

0:35:39.250,0:35:43.208
and pushing it out there
and living that on a daily basis.

0:35:43.208,0:35:46.083
So for it, that's the exact point.
That's why we have this podcast.

0:35:46.083,0:35:49.083
That's why we have the
the entire Ogden Way framework here.

0:35:49.291,0:35:52.958
We've got a tagline, a mission,
a vision, fundamental pillars for

0:35:52.958,0:35:54.458
for human success.

0:35:54.458,0:35:57.541
We're going to continue to
to talk about it until I'm done here.

0:35:57.625,0:35:58.791
Right? Maybe even afterward.

0:35:58.791,0:36:00.208
I hope not.

0:36:00.208,0:36:03.666
Under any belief or naive understanding
that we're going to reach everybody,

0:36:03.708,0:36:05.416

that everybody's going to be on board.

0:36:05.416,0:36:08.541
But it is every mayor's responsibility
to lead the charge,

0:36:09.041,0:36:11.791
to set the vision,
to bring partners to the table,

0:36:11.791,0:36:14.875
and to make sure as much energy is going
in the same direction as possible.

0:36:15.041,0:36:16.041
Right.

0:36:16.041,0:36:19.291
And as I do that work, I do believe that
there are more good people

0:36:19.291,0:36:22.291
in this town
than there are bad by a long shot,

0:36:22.625,0:36:24.416
and there are a lot of people
that are hungry

0:36:24.416,0:36:26.458
to participate in building this community.

0:36:26.458,0:36:31.375
Yeah, right?
and to that point of there are lots of good people.

0:36:31.375,0:36:32.333
There's no doubt right?

0:36:33.500,0:36:36.041
It's getting them to get involved
though, right?

0:36:36.041,0:36:37.333
Right. It's difficult.

0:36:37.333,0:36:40.541
I mean, I've been here almost six years
and I'm just now having the conversation

0:36:40.541,0:36:41.625
with you about getting involved.

0:36:41.625,0:36:43.625
I didn't even meet the last mayor?

0:36:43.625,0:36:44.083
There you go.

0:36:44.083,0:36:47.083
You know,
he never picked up the phone, nor did I.

0:36:47.166,0:36:48.541
So, you know, it's.

0:36:48.541,0:36:50.583
But, I mean, we're doing it now.

0:36:50.583,0:36:51.750
We're in a position to

0:36:51.750,0:36:54.916
to be able to sit back and say, okay,
how do I, how do we get back to the city?

0:36:54.916,0:36:57.916
What can we do to help out?

0:36:58.250,0:36:59.666

But I'm just one person

0:36:59.666,0:37:02.708

that I've been here for this
period of time and was not involved.

0:37:02.708,0:37:03.791

Right.

0:37:03.791,0:37:06.791

But the key thing that you just said
was, nor did I.

0:37:07.166,0:37:09.041

Yeah.

No, no. No, it was about trust me.

0:37:09.041,0:37:10.541

What what could I have done better?

0:37:10.541,0:37:13.416

Oh, absolutely. And fully aware. Oh,
I'm fully aware.

0:37:13.416,0:37:16.958

If you if we're not thinking
and reflecting inward on what I can do,

0:37:16.958,0:37:20.583

then we're not we're not taking control
of what's actually within our control.

0:37:20.583,0:37:21.666

Right, right, right.

0:37:21.666,0:37:24.125

These are all the things
that we talk about on this podcast.

0:37:24.125,0:37:26.916

We talk about them with other, guests.

0:37:26.916,0:37:28.625

It's been my honor to talk with you
today, Jim.

0:37:28.625,0:37:31.083

It's been, been a lot of fun
and really enjoyed it.

0:37:31.083,0:37:33.541

It's,
you're always a pleasure to speak with.

0:37:33.541,0:37:34.958

And again,

0:37:34.958,0:37:39.541

I walk away with this and your sincerity,
of what you want to try to accomplish.

0:37:39.541,0:37:43.250

And, you know, all we can hope
is that, that you're able to do that.

0:37:43.416,0:37:44.750

I appreciate the support to do it.

0:37:44.750,0:37:46.916

I'm under no illusion
that we'll do it for everybody,

0:37:46.916,0:37:49.916

but we're going to do it
for as many people as possible.

0:37:49.916,0:37:50.125
While

0:37:50.125,0:37:52.291
I try to hire
Cindy away from you, too. So,

0:37:53.375,0:37:54.375
She's really good.

0:37:54.375,0:37:57.375
Our relationship just ended.

0:37:58.083,0:37:59.458
If you want to like it, really steal

0:37:59.458,0:38:02.458
my thunder and, like, stop
all my progress take Cindy

0:38:03.833,0:38:07.000
Anybody that knows this town
knows that I have to have her.

0:38:07.000,0:38:08.750
She's a driving force.

0:38:08.750,0:38:12.541
And she's a perfect example
of the Ogden Way she loves the town, loves

0:38:12.541,0:38:14.708
our people, loves the work she's doing.

0:38:14.708,0:38:17.416
Yeah, and I just I love having her here.
And don't touch her.

0:38:17.416,0:38:18.333
Yeah. You know, I have to.

0:38:18.333,0:38:19.250
You have a Cindy.

0:38:19.250,0:38:20.500
I have a Jane, same thing

0:38:20.500,0:38:23.416
Okay
She she's, lived here forever.

0:38:23.416,0:38:24.875
She's a big part of the community.

0:38:24.875,0:38:28.083
She's been with the paper 42, 43,
44 years.

0:38:28.416,0:38:31.416
Loves the community, loves the paper.

0:38:32.166,0:38:34.000
She's definitely my backbone as well.

0:38:34.000,0:38:34.541
Yeah.

0:38:34.541,0:38:37.000
We're only as good
as the people we surround ourselves.

0:38:37.000,0:38:38.000
Absolutely.

0:38:38.000,0:38:41.000
I that I do not get myself,
but believe me.

0:38:41.458,0:38:44.416
Believe me.
Okay, I know what my I know what my call to action is.
Yep

0:38:44.416,0:38:46.291
My call to action
is to connect you with Delores Banks

0:38:46.291,0:38:50.541
Green. Delores is going to connect you
with the, Urban Student Alliance.

0:38:50.541,0:38:50.916
Great.

0:38:50.916,0:38:53.791
Right, USA for the Ben
Lomond High School community.

0:38:53.791,0:38:55.375
And we're going to take the next steps
to make sure

0:38:55.375,0:38:56.833
that we're giving those kids hope.
Yep.

0:38:56.833,0:39:01.083
And we'll finalize our initiative to,
to get the papers out there. And,

0:39:02.041,0:39:03.791
we'll talk about some other things,

0:39:03.791,0:39:06.958
about, communication and, and having,

0:39:07.958,0:39:10.458
bilingual, publications
and things like that.

0:39:10.458,0:39:12.125
And we'll go from.
All the above.

0:39:12.125,0:39:16.583
So thank you for joining us for today's
episode of of the Ogden Way Podcast.

0:39:16.708,0:39:16.958
Thank you.

0:39:16.958,0:39:19.000
Thank you.
I'm glad to be part of it.
Thank you for joining us.

0:39:19.000,0:39:20.125
Thank you.

0:39:20.125,0:39:21.458
What's your call to action?

0:39:21.458,0:39:24.125
What is the thing that you can do today
to make a difference?

0:39:24.125,0:39:26.333
Who is your Delores Banks Green?

0:39:26.333,0:39:29.791
What is your initiative to help restore
hope for your Ben Lomond High School?

0:39:30.458,0:39:32.041
Think about it
as you go throughout your day.

0:39:32.041,0:39:33.041
That is the Ogden Way.

0:39:33.041,0:39:35.291
We don't just think about ourselves,
we think about others.

0:39:35.291,0:39:38.083
We do the work to invest ourselves
while we do the work

0:39:38.083,0:39:41.083
to help others that lift as we rise.

0:39:41.583,0:39:43.125
That's the Ogden Way.

0:39:43.125,0:39:44.666
Thank you
and we'll see you in the next episode.